



WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE

Fact Sheet

STATUTORY HISTORY OF WYOMING EMS LEGISLATION

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This fact sheet was prepared at the request of the Labor, Health and Social Services Committee to provide a statutory history of Wyoming laws regarding the provision and funding of emergency medical services (EMS).

LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH AND REGULATE WYOMING EMS SERVICES AND TRAUMA SYSTEM

1977 HB 87 - Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Act of 1977.¹

Requires the Department of Health to prescribe rules and regulations for the licensing of ambulance businesses, and training and licensure of emergency medical technicians.

1993 SF 18 - Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System.²

Requires the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive emergency medical services and trauma system, including the designation of trauma system areas and hospitals.

2017 HB 112 - Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact Act.³

Recognizes the EMS licensure interstate compact, which allows EMS personnel in one compact state to exercise practice privileges in other member states.

¹ W.S. 33-36-101 through 33-36-115.

² W.S. 35-1-801 through 35-1-805.

³ W.S. 33-36-201 through 33-36-202.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE BENEFITS/INCENTIVES FOR EMS WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS

2007 HB 112 - Tuition and Fees for Survivors or Dependents of Emergency Responders.⁴

Provides free tuition and fees to the University of Wyoming or any Wyoming community college for survivors of peace officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and combat veterans and surviving spouses and orphans of combat veterans.

2007 SF 57 - Emergency Medical Technicians License Plates.⁵

Authorizes special motor vehicle license plates to be issued to EMTs.

2008 SF 62 - Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician Pension Fund.⁶

Created a volunteer EMS pension fund to be administered by the Wyoming Retirement System. In 2015, the volunteer EMS pension fund was combined with the volunteer fireman's pension fund.⁷

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE STATE OR LOCAL FUNDING FOR EMS SERVICES

2008 HB 82 - Trauma Care Services.⁸

Appropriated \$2.5 million State general funds to the Department of Health to reimburse acute care hospitals or ambulance services for uncompensated trauma care.

2009 HB 146 - Emergency Medical Services Sustainability Trust.⁹

Created an EMS sustainability trust account and income account to be funded by state appropriations, federal and other grants, and donations. Appropriated \$500,000 from the Tobacco Trust Fund income account to the EMS Sustainability Trust account and \$50,000 in state general funds to the EMS Sustainability Trust income account. Requires that funds in the income account be appropriated to the Department of Health for the purpose of providing grants to counties, joint powers boards, or EMS special districts to improve the delivery and quality of EMS services. The statute specifies funds are to be used to award two types of grants: (a) Grants for needs assessments to determine a master plan for sustaining EMS services in a local community; and (b) Grants to assist a community to

⁴ W.S. 21-16-1501.

⁵ W.S. 31-2-220.

⁶ W.S. 35-9-617.

⁷ 2015 HB 72.

⁸ 2008 Session Laws Chapter 105.

⁹ W.S. 33-36-115.

implement the master plan. Grant applications must include a commitment of at least \$5000 in local matching funds.

2016 SF 99 - EMS Districts.

Amends the Improvement and Service Districts statute¹⁰ to allow districts to provide emergency medical services, enter into agreements to furnish EMS, and establish and collect charges for EMS.

2016 SF 100 - Special Districts—Emergency Medical Services

Amends the Hospital Districts¹¹ and Rural Health Care Districts¹² statutes to specify hospital districts and rural health care districts may provide emergency medical services.

2021 SF 53 - Ground Ambulance Service Provider Assessment Act

Establishes a private ground ambulance service provider assessment to be used to secure federal Medicaid matching funds in an amount up to the maximum allowed by the Medicare Upper Payment Limit (UPL). Assessment revenues and federal matching funds will then be distributed by the Department of Health to private ambulance service providers as Medicaid supplemental payments. The Act also clarifies that the Department of Health may enter into intergovernmental transfer arrangements with ground ambulance service providers in accordance with an approved State Medicaid Plan amendment. As required by the Act, the Department of Health is currently seeking federal approval for a State Medicaid Plan amendment to allow operation of the Upper Payment Limit program.¹³

2023 SF 43 - EMS Districts¹⁴

Amends the Improvement and Service Districts statute to provides an alternative initiation process (resolution of a board of county commissioners rather than landowner petition) for formation of an improvement and service district to provide EMS services. To levy a property tax, not to exceed 4 mills, in support of a district formed by board of county commissioner resolution, the board must hold a special election and receive approval of a majority of voters in the district.¹⁵ The Act will take effect July 1, 2023.

If you need further information, please contact the LSO Research/Evaluation Division at 307-777-7881.

¹⁰ W.S. 18-12-102 through 18-12-119.

¹¹ W.S. 35-2-401 through 35-2-438.

¹² W.S. 35-2-701 through 35-2-723.

¹³ Wyoming Department of Health Ground Ambulance Supplemental Payment Program Public Notice (May 22, 2023), <https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/spa>.

¹⁴ W.S. 18-12-102 through 18-12-119.

¹⁵ W.S. 18-12-119 [Effective July 1, 2023].